

## Church News.

### FROM LANARK, ILL.

The S. S. C. E. of the Brethren church of Lanark is progressing nicely. We meet every Sunday afternoon, meet at the homes of the sisters usually, usually meet two successive weeks at one place. We do various kinds of work, piece quilts, make bonnets, make comforts, sew carpets rags, etc.

Our membership fee is one dollar for those who feel able to give that much, but those who feel that they are not able to give that amount less is accepted. At each meeting we take up a free-will offering which averages twenty-five cents or more.

We try to remember in our work that we are Christian workers and while we try to make all we can, we aim also to do good and to lighten the burdens of those around us consequently some Wednesday afternoons find us at the home of some poor sister, helping her with her sewing, sometimes garments are made and given to the poor; a work that only the sisters are fitted for.

When God placed man in this beautiful world, although surrounded by fragrant flowers and sweet singing birds, he saw the need of woman to complete his happiness, so we see in the church there is much need of woman's work, and we believe and trust that the S. S. C. E. may be a power for good not only in the Lanark church, but in all the churches in our beloved brotherhood.

EMMA PUTERBAUGH, Secretary.

### FROM PHILADELPHIA, PA.

We have closed our camp meeting in New Jersey, after four weeks of hard work. There were but two churches within four miles of the camp; one has not had a conversion for twelve years the other but few in that length of time. The sectarian lines were drawn as tightly as any place I have ever preached. The mass of people did not attend church. Religion was at a low ebb. Sister Sterling started this work and she sent for me to assist her. I soon saw that it would take a tremendous effort to break sectarian walls and get the community to see that there was a reality in religion. So we did not leave a stone unturned to make it a success. I erected my tent, sent for all the assistance I could well get to go from house to house and talk and pray with and for the people. The first week the attendance was very small. The first two Sundays we were rained out. But the talent and untiring efforts of our workers

soon awakened the greatest interest ever known in that community.

Dr. Mc. Gregor, Mary Sterling, J. S. Bowman, were our ministerial help, either of these are amply able to conduct a camp themselves. Then with Brother Mulford, Clemons, Sister Saney and Stanton, Missionary workers, we had abundance of talent and power of the spirit to awaken an interest. Then the Cassels and others from the city came and went and thus helped on the work. The whole community was aroused as I never saw any where before. The people came for miles every night and crowded our large tent and stood around on the outside. Men and women who had not attended church for years attended every night, and became warm friends to our cause.

We continued the meeting one week longer than we had expected, and had it not been for National Conference we would have continued another. The music was conducted by brother J. M. Bowman of Virginia, a master musician, and this added much to our success. The one great draw back to immediate success was, no church house to preach. A score or more have said they will unite with us if we build a church, so we expect immediately to make an effort to build the first Brethren church in New Jersey. The immediate result, ten by baptism. We had six before, so we now number sixteen. We hope to reap a great harvest after we build the church. We have the influence and the material for a large ingathering. I have baptized two more in Philadelphia since my last report, also one in my mission point in Maryland. Hence we have had thirteen additions since our last report. Brethren pray for us.

ISAAC D. BOWMAN.

### JOTTINGS.

Finding it my lot to wait from 7 A. M., until 4 P. M., at depot in Buchanan, I will let the readers of the EVANGELIST know of my whereabouts and surroundings. The greater part of July and August was spent among brethren of Philadelphia and vicinity. We were spiritually strengthened as well as pleasantly entertained in their midst. There were many things in this congregation that deeply impressed us and we hope that a few words of comment here may be of benefit to our readers. The sociability of this church is unmarked. This alone has led many souls to Christ and many of his children to a closer relationship. I do not refer to the French sociability that is doomed for the occasion, but that deep seated love for the happiness and welfare of others which is manifested at all times.

We found this a church of Bible readers and students, daily searching the scriptures, seeking and accepting the truth. I am glad to say, that to all appearance, these people are open to the acceptance of truth from what ever source it may come, not alone through the narrow and limited channel of sectarianism, but from every channel that leads from God's great store house of eternal truth.

The growth of this church has been remarkable, not in numbers alone, but in its spiritual development.

The Monday night prayer meetings were a feast to my soul. Many that were taken from the gutter are now praising God and enjoying his love.

The growth in faith has kept abreast, if not ahead of the general development. Very high ground has been taken by this congregation. They have accepted Christ as a complete Savior, as Savior from pain as well as from sin. There were many other things that made lasting impressions upon my mind, but will not for lack of space comment upon them.

From July 1, to 20, was spent at camp meeting near Flemington, New Jersey. At the beginning the congregations were small, but it was not long until we did not know how to accommodate the people. There were quite a number of baptisms, and the influence upon the community will be great toward elevating its moral tone. Prof. J. M. Bowman, of Harrisonburg, Va., conducted the music, which to mildly put it, was highly praised by all. The memories of the Jersey Camp will always be precious. Not being permitted to remain till close of camp meeting we started for our field of labor in Virginia, on August 23, and stopped at reunion in Shenandoah Co., Va. Here we had the pleasure of meeting many old friends and enjoyed a spiritual feast such as is seldom equalled in the "Old Dominion."

Having stopped a few days at home we are now on our way to Craig Co., to hold a meeting for a few weeks. We only have two members there but hope that others may be added to the fold. We feel our own weakness and nothingness and desire the prayers of God's children. We hope that the pastors of the district of Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia, will at once respond to the call of the Mission Board, otherwise the work must soon stop. There are numbers of calls but the means are lacking. My mail will reach me for the next month if addressed to Roanoke, Va., in care of brother D. C. Moomaw.

Aug. 30.

J. S. BOWMAN.

THE bread of life is love; the salt of life is work; the sweetness of life is poesy; the water of life, faith.—Jameson.